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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/461,336	12/15/1999	DAZHI CHEN	23632-002	3675
909	7590	04/20/2006	EXAMINER	
PILLSBURY WINTHROP SHAW PITTMAN, LLP			MCALLISTER, STEVEN B	
P.O. BOX 10500			ART UNIT	
MCLEAN, VA 22102			PAPER NUMBER	
			3627	

DATE MAILED: 04/20/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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09 / 461,336

EXAMINER

ART UNIT

PAPER

20060417

DATE MAILED:

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Commissioner for Patents

In response to Applicant's election with traverse, the examiner seeks clarification. In Applicant's Remarks, Applicant argues that the subject matter of the claims of the restricted groups are "not distinct". If Applicant's arguments are interpreted to mean that Applicant argues that the subject matter of the claims of the restricted groups are not patentably distinct over each other, then the Examiner concedes that restriction is not proper. Clarification of Applicant's use of the term "distinct" is therefore requested.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Steven B. McAllister whose telephone number is 571-272-6785. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th 8-6:30.

A shortened statutory period for reply is set to expire 1 month or thirty (30) days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after six (6) months from the mailing date of this communication.

Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become abandoned (35 U.S.C. 133).

STEVE B. McALLISTER
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Steven B. McAllister
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 3627